

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 859
By Henry

A RESOLUTION to recognize Marie B. Williams on the occasion
of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who in their years of work have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, Marie B. Williams is one such estimable person who has served with distinction as the President of the Tennessee Center for Performance Excellence, formerly the Tennessee Quality Award (TQA), where she has served as CEO since the program's inception in January 1993; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Williams' career has spanned twenty years in planning, creating, testing, implementing, and evaluating quality systems in both manufacturing and service environments; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of the University of North Carolina in Charlotte, she has held a number of different roles during her illustrious career, which range from general management of a major women's apparel manufacturing firm to co-owning and managing a recruiting firm; and

WHEREAS, respected and admired by her peers, Ms. Williams is recognized for her role in promoting and developing performance excellence worldwide; she was an integral part of the creation of the Country of Mauritius National Quality Award, for which she used the Tennessee Quality Award as a benchmark program that has been successfully replicated in numerous local and national programs worldwide; and

WHEREAS, the impact of Ms. Williams' tenure is immense; since 1993, she has trained over 2,000 examiners, provided support to more than 1,000 applicant organizations, delivered more than 100 on-site Leadership Training sessions, and addressed more than 75,000 people at numerous workshops and presentations; and

WHEREAS, Marie Williams is an active and important part of her community and her profession, participating in numerous worthy organizations, including service on the Board of the Mayberry Chair of Excellence at Tennessee Technological University, the Board of Directors of the National Center for Quality, the Board of Visitors, College of Business Administration and Technology, East Tennessee State University, and the Advisory Board of the College of Interdisciplinary Studies and Extended Education at Tennessee Tech University; and

WHEREAS, among her long list of distinguished professional affiliations are American Society for Quality (ASQ), The Association for Quality and Participation (AQP), the World Quality Council, American Association of University Women, and the National Association of Female Executives; and

WHEREAS, Marie Williams also contributes her time and numerous talents to the Rotary Club of Nashville, Junior Achievement, and United Way; she also has served as President of the Lion's Head Community Association for three years and was the founding President of Volunteer Bristol Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, Marie Williams exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, Marie Williams has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of her colleagues; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we thank Marie B. Williams for her dedicated service to the Tennessee Center for Performance Excellence and extend to her our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.